

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing Preliminary Amendment prior to examination is respectfully requested. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1, 2, 9, and 10 have been amended to improve form, and claims 17-29 have been added. The subject matter recited in newly added claims 17-29 can be found variously throughout the drawings and specification. For example, the subject matter recited in claims 17-29 find support in Fig. 9, and the specification at page 20, lines 2-12. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-29 are pending.

Election of Species

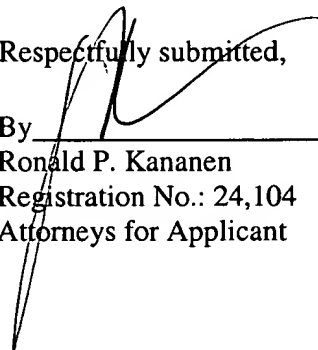
In the above-mentioned Office Action, the Examiner alleged that the claims of the instant invention were directed to five (5) patentably distinct species (a)-(e). Applicant hereby provisionally elects species (a), which is directed to original claims 1, 2, 9, and 10. As noted above, Applicant has added claims 17-29, which are readable on the elected species (a), and further submit that claim 29 is generic to the remaining non-elected species (b)-(e). Under 37 CFR 1.53(b), Applicant, of course, reserves the right to file divisional applications covering the subject matter of each non-elected group.

Conclusion

Applicant believes that pending claims 1-29, and particularly elected claims 1, 2, 9, 10, and 17-29 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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